



**Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018**

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

**The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts**

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)

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**Bishops call for offering to support Merrimack Valley Disaster Relief**

Contributions now accepted online [here](#).

See page 6 for information on an Episcopal Relief & Development disaster preparedness training on Saturday, Oct. 27.

In the aftermath of last month's natural gas disaster in the Merrimack Valley, all three Episcopal churches and one Episcopal school in the affected communities—Christ Church in Andover, St. Paul's Church in North Andover and Grace Church and Esperanza Academy in Lawrence—reported no property damage and no known personal injuries but several church families in Lawrence and one in Andover with homes damaged by fires. Many are still without gas service and continue to deal with aftereffects.

The bishops have urged all congregations to consider collecting or designating an offering for a diocesan relief response. Contributions, made payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts and marked "Merrimack Valley Disaster Relief," may be sent to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, Attn: Lauren Zook, 138 Tremont Street, Boston MA 02111. Contributions can also be made online [here](#) (choose "Merrimack Valley Disaster Relief" from the drop-down menu under "How would you like your gift to be used?"). As recovery continues, the bishops, together with local clergy, disaster response contacts and diocesan personnel, will continue to be in conversation about ongoing response.

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**Online registration now open for Diocesan Convention**

Plan to attend a pre-convention forum in October

Online registration is now open for the 233rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts, to take place on *Saturday, Nov. 3* at the Cape Cod Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis. Additionally, there will be an optional dinner on Friday evening, Nov. 2 celebrating the 30th anniversary of Bishop Barbara C. Harris's historic election. Pre-registration is required. Find the registration link, materials and updates at [www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2018](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2018). Printed copies of the convention handbook and budget will be available at the pre-convention forums as well as at the convention.

Pre-Diocesan Convention forums in October offer an important opportunity for learning and discussion about the issues and business to come before the convention, including resolutions and the proposed budget. All are welcome; voting members are especially encouraged to participate. The forums will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on:

- *Wednesday, Oct. 17* at St. Andrew's Church (3 Maple Street) in Framingham;
- *Thursday, Oct. 18* at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield;
- *Tuesday, Oct. 23* at the Church of Our Saviour (120 Center Street) in Middleborough; and
- *Wednesday, Oct. 24* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: *Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council* (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).

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### **Congregations invited to join Massachusetts Indaba 2019**

Last year's Diocesan Convention adopted a mission strategy implementation plan that includes "developing opportunities for teams from congregations to visit other congregations, sharing worship and learning about one another." Since then, a Diocesan Council working group has studied and recommended Indaba—a model for purposeful conversation, arising out of the southern African context, which has been used throughout the Anglican Communion—as a format for addressing the diocesan goal.

All worshiping communities in the diocese are invited and encouraged to participate in Massachusetts Indaba 2019:

- Each interested congregation or community will designate a four-person Indaba team.
- All participating Indaba teams will attend a kick-off gathering on *Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019*.
- Each Indaba team will be assigned to partner with two teams from other deaneries.
- Three weekends (Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon) in 2019 have been chosen for Indaba Encounters at which each of the three Indaba partner teams will host the other two partner teams, including overnight accommodations in members' homes.
- The process will conclude with a gathering of all the Indaba teams to share their experiences and hopes for the future.

**Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, is the deadline for congregations to register for Massachusetts Indaba 2019.** Find the registration link and more information at [www.diomass.org/mission-strategy-indaba-2019](http://www.diomass.org/mission-strategy-indaba-2019).

FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (617-482-4826, ext. 403 or [mgardner@diomass.org](mailto:mgardner@diomass.org)).

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### **Resources available for observing Creation Care Season**

The Diocese of Massachusetts observes the weeks of September to Advent as Creation Care Season. "Of course, every season is a creation care season, but by dedicating these months, September to Advent, as our Diocesan Convention voted to do in 2010, we have a special invitation to focus our prayer, special worship services, study, spiritual formation, advocacy and commitments toward reducing carbon emissions in our churches, our homes and our communities," retired bishop suffragan Bud Cederholm writes in a recent letter inviting participation in Creation Care Season. Find the complete letter, as well as other resources and links, [here](#).

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### **Global mission staffing transition announced**

As of Sept. 30, Laura Walta, who has served as the project director for global mission for five years, has retired.

"Laura has been instrumental in creating an infrastructure for our diocesan mission relationships and ministries beyond the U.S.," Bishop Gayle E. Harris said in an announcement. "Her faithful and passionate commitment to establishing and maintaining our connections in the Anglican Communion, especially in Africa, the Caribbean and the Middle East, for the past five years has woven closer ties of affection and witness.

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“With her departure, the diocesan global mission office and ministry will now be led by two able and dedicated deacons for this diocese. The Rev. Holly Hartman will serve as missionary for global mission, and the Rev. Marilyn McMillan will serve as assistant missionary for global mission. In addition to their global mission roles, Holly and Marilyn will continue their service as deacons in their assigned parishes, Grace Church in Everett and St. David’s Church in South Yarmouth, respectively.”

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## NOTES:

- **Hallelujah, Anyhow! Book Launch and Hymn Sing:** *Sunday, Oct. 14, 4:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Come celebrate the launch of Bishop Barbara C. Harris’s newly published memoir with singing and fellowship. Pre-signed copies of *Hallelujah, Anyhow!* will be available for sale at the event. All are welcome.

*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Bryan Pearson, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 366 or [bpearson@diomass.org](mailto:bpearson@diomass.org)).*

- A **special service of Evensong**, with reception following, will be offered on *Friday, Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m. in honor of cathedral administrator Ethel Crawford, who is retiring after 40 years of service to the Diocese of Massachusetts and Cathedral Church of St. Paul. All are warmly invited to gather at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston for this celebration.*

*FOR INFORMATION: The Very Rev. Amy E. McCreath, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 204 or [amccreath@diomass.org](mailto:amccreath@diomass.org)).*

- **Cathedral Veterans Day Service:** In honor of all veterans, the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston will be holding an ecumenical worship service on *Sunday, Nov. 11 at 4 p.m.* All are welcome to attend this special service.

*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Bryan Pearson, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 366 or [bpearson@diomass.org](mailto:bpearson@diomass.org)).*

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## CHURCHWIDE:

- The Episcopal Church is forming its **delegation to the 63rd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**, which convenes March 11-22, 2019, in New York City. Priority topics this year are social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The Episcopal delegation will comprise one delegate from each province of the church, with priority given to those whose life experience and advocacy speak most directly to the session’s themes.

Find information and the application, due by Oct. 26, [here](#).

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## Upcoming youth ministry events:

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org)).

Find the full schedule of 2018-2019 youth ministry events [here](#).

- Interested to find out what others are doing in youth ministry? Have an idea for collaborating with neighbors on a program or project? Want to gather great ideas and be encouraged by the camaraderie of others doing similar work? Join for one of these **fall get-togethers for youth ministers** (meals included): **Thursday, Oct. 4, 12-2 p.m.** at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill; **Tuesday, Oct. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at the Parish of the Epiphany (70 Church Street) in Winchester; **Wednesday, Oct. 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at St. John's Church (705 Hale Street) in Beverly Farms; and **Thursday, Oct. 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at the Church of Our Saviour (2112 County Street) in Somerset. Register online in advance, [here](#), to ensure enough food.

- **Register for DYC@20 Celebration in Hyannis, Nov. 3:** The Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) was first granted voice and vote at the 1998 Diocesan Convention. The 20th anniversary of this important milestone will be marked at this year's Diocesan Convention, where former DYC members and mentors from the recent and distant past will gather for a networking lunch, a looking-back-and-looking-ahead presentation to the convention and a celebratory dinner. Bus transport between the Riverside T station in Newton and the events in Hyannis will be available.

**Online registration for DYC@20 is now open, [here](#).** The DYC@20 Organizing Committee needs everyone's help in reaching as many past DYC members and mentors as possible. In addition to inviting them to the Nov. 3 celebration, the group wants to get their responses to an alumni survey to hear their news and reflections. Find the survey [here](#).

- Online registration is open [here](#) for the **2018 Middle School Retreat** weekend, *Friday-Sunday, Nov. 16-18* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Led by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, music by a live band and some much-needed time away in order to pay more attention to the Spirit of God. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. Registration closes when capacity is reached or on Nov. 12.

- Spaces are still available to join **Faith in Action: Las Fronteras**. Find information and the online application [here](#). This new program for young people in grades 9-12 launches this fall. It is a partnership between the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Episcopal City Mission and includes a year of site visits around the diocese to see faith in action, all while participating in community service projects across eastern Massachusetts and developing a community of faith and support among themselves.

The program will begin with an organizational meeting in October, and the year will culminate in the group's pilgrimage to the U.S.-Mexico borderlands in August 2019.

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## TRAINING & LEARNING:

- The Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes is offering a **free Resource Day on strategic planning**, to be held on *Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (206 Clarendon Street) in Boston. The program will focus on practical guidance for implementing an integrated planning process that considers all relevant aspects of the parish-mission, liturgy, program, finances and facilities, with discussion to also include ways that such planning processes can be used to coordinate and leverage the parish's communications, finance and fundraising efforts. Find more information and online registration [here](#).

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on two Saturdays this fall: [Oct. 6](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston and [Nov. 17](#) at Grace Church (104 North Washington Street) in North Attleborough. Click on the date links to register online. This training provides the required licensing to be a Eucharistic Visitor in the Diocese of Massachusetts. Eucharistic Visitors are lay people who have been trained and authorized to administer the Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to attend church services.  
*FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Events Coordination (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or [jgarrett@diomass.org](mailto:jgarrett@diomass.org)).*

- The Guild of the Good Shepherd is offering two Level 1 **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd courses** for 2018-2019: A weekly Level I course began in September and continues on *Tuesdays, Oct. 9, 23 and 30 at 6:45 p.m.* at Christ Church (149 Asbury Street) in South Hamilton. Click [here](#) for more information. A monthly course is also underway and meets next on *Saturday, Oct. 20, beginning at 9 a.m.*, at the Parish of the Good Shepherd (1671 Beacon Street) in Waban. Click [here](#) for more information. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an approach to the religious formation of children ages 3-12. It is rooted in Scripture, liturgy and the educational principles of Maria Montessori.  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Joyce Scherer-Hoock (978-772-2615 or [jlshoock@gmail.com](mailto:jlshoock@gmail.com)) or Carol Godfrey ([cgodfrey67@comcast.net](mailto:cgodfrey67@comcast.net)).*

- A **Clergy Safe Church Refresher Training** will be offered on *Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston (register online [here](#)). Additionally, a spring Clergy Safe Church Refresher Training has been scheduled for *Tuesday, May 14, 2019* (register [here](#)).

**Safe Church Training events open to all** will be offered from *8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*, on [Saturday, Oct. 20](#) at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable; and [Saturday, Oct. 27](#) at the Church of St. John the Evangelist (410 Washington Street) in Duxbury. Click on the date links for more information and online registration.

*FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Events Coordination (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or [jgarrett@diomass.org](mailto:jgarrett@diomass.org)).*

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- An **Episcopal Relief & Development disaster preparedness training** will be offered on *Saturday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Lunch will be provided. The training will facilitate the development of a ministry that assists congregations in anticipating and preparing for local, unexpected disastrous events. At the conclusion of the session, participants will be prepared to function as the Episcopal Relief & Development point person for the congregation. Lay participation is encouraged and clergy are welcome. RSVP by e-mail to [jay@stpauls-nbpt.org](mailto:jay@stpauls-nbpt.org) by Oct. 17 (please indicate any food restrictions).  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Jay Jordan (978-465-5351 or [jay@stpauls-nbpt.org](mailto:jay@stpauls-nbpt.org)).*

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## **DIOCESAN GRANTS & LOANS:**

Questions about grant programs may be directed to grants administrator Lauren Zook (617/482-4826, ext. 306 or [lzook@diomass.org](mailto:lzook@diomass.org)).

- Applications for **2019 United Thank Offering Young Adult and Seminarian Grants** from the Episcopal Church are now available online [here](#). They are due to diocesan grants administrator Lauren Zook by Oct. 26.
  - There are **volunteer positions open on several diocesan grant committees**, including those that award Congregational Development Grants and global mission grants. Those interested in participating or learning more about responsibilities and time commitment should contact diocesan grants administrator Lauren Zook. Clergy and lay members are welcome, and formal grant-making experience is not required.
  - The **process and criteria for Mission Tithe Matching Grants are currently undergoing revision**. New materials for global mission grants will be posted on the diocesan website by January 2019. Congregations that are already working on Mission Tithe Matching Grants applications are encouraged to contact diocesan grants administrator Lauren Zook.
  - Applications for **2018 Deanery Grants** (Sending Serving and House of Mercy Grants) are available [here](#). Award decisions must be submitted from deaneries to the diocesan office by *Monday, Oct. 15*.
  - **Clergy Sabbatical Grants:** The application form and program information for 2019 Clergy Sabbatical Grants are available [here](#). Applications are due by *Monday, Oct. 15, 2018*, for sabbaticals in 2019; award decisions will be announced by Nov. 15. Please submit applications to Lauren Zook, Diocesan Grants Administrator, by e-mail to [lzook@diomass.org](mailto:lzook@diomass.org) or by mail to her at Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Michael Hodges, Sabbatical Grant Committee (978-475-0529 or [mhodes@christchurchandover.org](mailto:mhodes@christchurchandover.org)).*
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## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

At its Sept. 8 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard an update from the bishop on diocesan staff changes.

Voted to accept the audit of the 2017 financial statements of the diocese.

Voted to accept the recommendation of the Assessment Coordinating Committee to distribute \$41,899 in assessment adjustments.

Heard from the Strategic Ministry Committee on its 2019 funding recommendations.

Voted to endorse the proposed 2019 budget and recommend favorable action by Diocesan Convention.

Heard a report from the 2018 General Convention deputation.

Heard an update from the Indaba working group.

Heard a Diocesan Convention update, including positions still to be filled by election, proposed resolutions, proposed amendments to the canons and the proposed admission of two congregations as missions.

Heard that the Executive Committee voted at its Aug. 30 meeting to approve the assessment payment plan for St. Paul's Church in North Andover, as submitted by the diocesan Treasurer's Office.

**Next Diocesan Council Meeting:** *Thursday, Oct. 25, 6-8:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).*

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## **JOB POSTINGS:**

Go to [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)  
(Resources for Congregations & Clergy > [Employment](#)).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: [marketing and events coordinator](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston; [parish administrator](#) at Christ Church in Waltham; [music director](#) at Christ Church in Harwich Port; [Kids in Community program administrator](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn; [nursery care provider](#) at Trinity Church in Concord; [communications and database assistant](#) at Christ Church in Cambridge; and [Sunday school teacher](#) at Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban.

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**CLERGY SEARCH &  
CALL REPORT:**

Communication regarding parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or [jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org)).

**CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:**

FALL RIVER, Church of the Holy Spirit  
MELROSE, Trinity Church  
NEWBURYPORT, St. Paul's Church  
NEWTON LOWER FALLS, St. Mary's Church  
SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour  
SUDBURY, St. Elizabeth's Church  
WATERTOWN, Church of the Good Shepherd

**CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

HARWICH PORT, Christ Church  
LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church  
LYNN, St. Stephen's Church  
NATICK, St. Paul's Church  
TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

**CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

*None at this time.*

**CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:**

CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church  
WALTHAM, Christ Church

**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

BOSTON, Trinity Church  
DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist  
WRENTHAM, Trinity Church

**CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Patricia Handloss has been appointed bridge priest at Christ Church in Medway.  
The Rev. Stephen Harding from the Diocese of New York has been called as rector of Grace Church in Vineyard Haven, starting on Nov. 4.  
The Rev. Kevin Sparrow has been called as rector of St. Andrew's Church in Hanover starting Oct. 15.  
The Rev. Harry Walton has been appointed priest-in-charge of Trinity Church in Canton.

**NEXT *fyi*:**

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the November issue is **Wednesday, Oct. 31 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).

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